(Continued from Page 2.)

ing men, who feed and clothe and educate their millions.

Then, too, we are annually sending too much money abroad in fares and freights; let us urge Congress to pass such legislation as will insure us at least four or five superb fleets of merchant steamers, to have ready at the opening of the Darien canal. If the fleets they build should cost much money, it would all go to our skilled workers, and if it cost something more to run them at first than they could make, it would not be so much as we lose in interest on the money we pay foreign ship owners now in fares and freights."

If they could but see these facts and act upon them, then with new zeal could the United States enter upon her mission of making the light of her liberty enlighten the world. But there is much to do at home. More technical schools and schools of design are needed; we have many waste places yet to redeem; we need to have more agricultural schools and experiment stations until our scientists may know what best to plant under all the varying climates that we are blest with.

And graduates from these schools will find situations waiting for them in all the lands south of us, and with steam lines plying regularly there, in a brief time American capital would drift there.

So would much of the immigration which is pouring in upon us that we do not need, and dividends from those lands would in ten years begin to come back to us even as they now do to Germany and Great Britain, and the foremost nations would be second class compared with ours.

In Fifty Years

THE Oregonian of Oct. 30th, in its "Half a Century Ago" column, has a dispatch of the 21st from San Francisco announcing that the great overland telegraph had been completed from Omaha to Salt Lake City and that men were vigorously pushing the building of the line from Rugby (Ruby) valley to Salt Lake and it was hoped that the through line would be completed within a week.

It had another dispatch from Yreka, Cal., announcing the completion of the Northern line, the previous day and saying that it was working O. K. to St. Louis.

Those announcements bring back vividly the memories of the old days, when there was no telegraphic communication between the east and the west, and the mails only came semi-monthly; how the coming of the telegraph took away much of the sense of isolation from the hearts of men and renewed the hope that sometime a railroad would find its way over the mighty waste.

Think what that waste was, and the change that has come to it in half a century! There is nothing like it in all the records of the past. The railroad came eight years later and then the conquest of the desert began in earnest. Except for the demonitization of silver, much more would have been done; the nation would have been quite a billion of dollars richer, the mighty panic of 1893 and 1907 would have been avoided, and the awful depression from 1892 to 1897, and the other awful depression from 1907 to the present would never have been known; but as it is, an area greater than two or three European empires have been reclaimed, and covered with homes; the savage has been subdued, the frown of the desert driven away and now, when on the nation's birthday comes around and the anthem of praise is raised where the surf thunders against the cliffs of Maine, it is taken up and borne westward, "following the sun and keeping company with the hours" until it blends with the boom of the deep sea beyond the Golden Gate.

Further on it is awakened in Alaska and in Hawail and in a strange and softer tongue in the far-off Philippines; the flag has taken on new majesty and splendor under its light; before it barbarous thrones are toppling and falling like rotten icebergs and the cry for freedom rises on the voices of the world, oppressed, until it encircles the earth.

THE FEAST.

Fly low swallows, Hills grow clear. All the little leaves know Some one's near. All along the hedgerow. Hark, and you shall hear Little cups and saucers Clinking, clinking, Little cups and saucers far and near.

Gathered round the tables, Each small guest Whispers He is close now, Coming from the West, Whispers He is close now, Coming from the East. Hark, and you shall hear them Stealing, stealing, Heralds of the Giver of the Feast.

Grows a little cloud now, Man's hand high, Not a voice is heard now, Bent each eye. Never was so mouse still Earth, air, sky; Waiting for the Great One, Great One, Great One. Waiting for the Great One to come by.

One drop, two drops, Ah, how we pray, Pass us not, O Great One, Great One, stay. Hush, ah-shout then Hand, heart, brain, All our little cups full. Caps full, laps full, All our little tables. Miles of little tables, Drumming with the rapture of the Rain. -From the London Spectator.

DONEGAL.

By Clinton Scollard,

We made Donegal in the teeth of gray weather. We made Donegal with the wind blowing free. And the spindrift at toss like a snowy gull's feather

Where the highlands lean down to the lips of

We left Donegal in the azure blue weather. We left Donegal with a soft breeze a-lee, With the bees in the broom and the sun on the heather

And scarcely a ripple astir on the sea,

But give me to come in the teeth of gray weather, Oh, give me to come with the wind blowing free,

And love's arms to clasp in their welcoming tether A wanderer worn with the tolls of the sea!

For 'tis sorrow to go in the azure blue weather. 'Tis sorrow to go with a soft breeze a-lee, Leaving love's yearning arms where one fain would find tether,

Watching dear Donegal sinking down in the nea!

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